

control problems and related water resources needs of streams in Alexander and Pulaski Counties, Illinois, and those portions of the streams and basins in adjacent Illinois counties tributary to Alexander and Pulaski Counties.

2. For reasons of marginal flood control benefits, changing land use, the recognized environmental uniqueness of the area, changing Corps wetlands restoration policies and sponsorship, the planning investigation has shifted from its original focus on flood control to its present purpose of habitat restoration.

Sedimentation from tributary streams, and an altered hydrologic regime are destroying one of the most impressive wetland areas in the Cache River—the Lower Cache River Swamp National Natural Landmark area. Heron Pond Little Black Slough National Natural Landmark area is threatened by drainage induced by entrenchment of the Post Creek/Upper Cache River channel.

Prior Corps of Engineers projects have contributed at least partially to these problems: flood water recharge of the Lower Cache River wetlands has been reduced as a result of Upper Cache River and Ohio River flows being deflected away from the Lower Cache via the Corps constructed Cache River and Reevesville Levees. The Cache River levee has contributed to the entrenchment process by ensuring that major flood flows from the Upper Cache River and Main Ditch area are directed down the Post-Creek Cutoff channel. The Cache River levee culverts have contributed to reverse flowage during high and low water stages on the Lower Cache. During higher tributary stages, sediment-laden waters are carried into Lower Cache River Swamp, and during dry periods (due to the low culvert inserts), the swamp is excessively drained. The Corps' Cache River diversion outlet and levee has diverted flows away from the lowermost 7 miles of Old Cache River channel.

Unless these problems are controlled through sound environmental engineering, the landmark areas will be lost. Solutions to these problems will require a thorough understanding of the complex hydrology of the Cache River basin. The Corps has an opportunity to provide the highly specialized hydrological engineering expertise needed for such an effort. The Corps is also in a unique position to provide the implementation capabilities for installing needed structural solutions.

3. Potential habitat restoration measures include: Big Creek and Cypress Creek floodplain restoration; sediment retention dams in the uplands of Big Creek and Cypress Creek;

selective sediment removal from Lower Cache River Swamp; diverting flow from the Upper Cache towards Lower Cache River Swamp; Lower Cache River Swamp water control structures; and rock weirs placement in Post Creek and the Upper Cache River.

4. Scoping process includes the Nov 1996 Phase 2 Public Workshop & Written Comments period.

5. Draft EIS will be made available to the public in 1998.

Thomas J. Hodgini,
COL, EN, Commanding.

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Coastal Engineering Research Board (CERB); Notice

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), announcement is made of the following committee meeting:

Name of Committee: Coastal Engineering Research Board (CERB).

Dates of Meeting: January 14-16, 1997.

Place: Inn at Morro Bay, Morro Bay, California, and the U.S. Army Engineer Division, South Pacific, San Francisco, California.

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. (January 14, 1997), 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (January 15, 1997), 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (January 16, 1997).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Inquiries and notice of intent to attend the meeting may be addressed to Colonel Bruce K. Howard, Executive Secretary, Coastal Engineering Research Board, U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station, 3909 Halls Ferry Road, Vicksburg, Mississippi 39180-6199.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Proposed Agenda:* The 64th meeting of the Coastal Engineering Research Board is a civilian Board meeting hosted by the U.S. Army Engineer Division, South Pacific. The civilian members of the Board will visit the Morro Bay site with a discussion of the project at the Inn at Morro Bay on the morning of January 14. There will be a discussion of the Surfside-Sunset Alternative Structure Plan the afternoon of January 14. The Board will travel to San Francisco where on Wednesday, January 15, there will be site visits to the Pillar Point Harbor Project, San Francisco Beach Project, and Fisherman's Wharf Project. On Thursday morning, January 16, there

will be discussions with Division/District personnel to discuss projects viewed and recommendations made.

This meeting is open to the public, but since seating capacity is limited, advance notice of intent to attend, although not required, is requested in order to assure adequate arrangements for those wishing to attend.

Bruce K. Howard,
Colonel, Corps of Engineers, Executive Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.235W]

Special Projects and Demonstrations for Providing Vocational Rehabilitation Services to Individuals With Disabilities; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 1997

Purpose of Program: To provide financial assistance to projects for expanding or otherwise improving vocational rehabilitation and other rehabilitation services for individuals with disabilities, especially individuals with the most severe disabilities.

Eligible Applicants: State agencies; other public agencies and organizations, including Indian tribes; and nonprofit private agencies and organizations.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 18, 1997.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 19, 1997.

Applications Available: December 11, 1996.

Available Funds: \$2,958,000.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$180,000—\$220,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$200,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 13-16.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Maximum Award: In no case does the Secretary make an award greater than \$220,000 for a single budget period of 12 months. The Secretary rejects and does not consider an application that proposes a budget exceeding this maximum amount.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, and 85; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR parts 369 and 373.